



National Missing Children's Day Poster Contest Fact Sheet



Contest Rules:

1. Applicant must be in the 5th grade.
2. Artwork should reflect the theme "Bringing Our Missing Children Home" and that phrase should appear somewhere on the poster (please refer to the winning entries from prior years – attached as samples)
3. The theme must be depicted visually in one or a combination of mediums, such as acrylics, watercolor, pencil, charcoal, magic markers, spray paint, crayons, pastels, etc.
4. The finished poster should measure at least 8 ½ x 11 and no more than 11 x 14 inches.
5. The poster must be submitted with a completed application (sample attached), which includes a description of the poster and a brief biography of the artist (neither to exceed 100 words) either legibly written or typed.

Judging Criteria:

1. Contest rules must be followed for all levels of competition; incomplete packages will not be eligible for further consideration.
2. Artwork will be judged on:
 - a. Originality of design
 - b. Reflection of the contest theme
 - c. Use of color and materials
3. Written applications will be judged on:
 - a. Level of understanding of the subject expressed
 - b. Clarity
 - c. Grammar and syntax appropriate to the 5th grade level

Competition Procedures:

1. All phases of the competition to determine the local finalist for the national judging are the responsibility of the local entities. They may be conducted within schools, school districts, local governing bodies, PTA's, sponsoring businesses or civic groups.

2. The local winning contest package to be received by the Child Protection Division by March 30, 2006 at the following address:

Ron Laney, Associate Administrator
Child Protection Division
810 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20531

FedEx Zip Code: 20001
202-616-3637

3. At the national level, judging will be completed by representatives from the Child Protection Division of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Americans for the Arts, and the law enforcement community.
4. The national award winner will be notified by the Child Protection Division who will also notify the winner's school and the local media outlets.

Awards:

1. Each applicant should receive a certificate of recognition for participating in the contest from the local sponsoring agency (see attached sample).
2. Local sponsors will be responsible for duplicating and displaying the winning poster(s) in prominent sites deemed appropriate in the community (i.e. police station, public library, school office, etc.).
3. The local finalist whose poster is selected to go to the national level of competition will receive a national award certificate and a United States Savings Bond.
4. The national winner, his or her teacher, and his or her parents will participate in the National Missing Children's Day ceremony at the US Department of Justice on or around May 25, 2006; transportation and lodging will be provided.

Winning Poster:

1. The winning poster (original and copies) will be displayed at the Department of Justice, Congressional Offices, and other locations as determined by the Child Protection Division and the Department of Justice.

2. The winning poster may be used in publications, exhibits, displays and on websites as determined by the Child Protection Division and the Department of Justice.
3. The winning poster will be used as the artwork for the ceremonies for National Missing Children's Day in 2007.
4. Photos of the winner and his or her poster will also be available through the Child Protection Division and the Department of Justice and will be posted wherever contest information is available.
5. The national finalists and the winning poster will become the property of the Child Protection Division and the Department of Justice and any applicable copyrights will be held by those offices.

Contest Dates:

1. January 13, 2006 – AMBER Alert Awareness Day
 - a. Begin discussing safety issues with students
 - b. Provide poster contest information to 5th grade students
2. March 13, 2006
 - a. All local poster competitions completed
 - b. Local judging begins
3. March 30, 2006
 - a. Deadline for local winner contest packages to be received by the Child Protection Division
 - b. National judging begins
4. April 30, 2006
 - a. National Judges submit the name of the poster contest winner
5. May 5, 2006
 - a. National winner notified
 - b. Travel arrangements are initiated for attendance at National Missing Children's Day ceremony

Should you have any questions or need further information, please contact your local AMBER Alert Coordinator or Missing Children's Clearinghouse Manager for assistance.